

Reconsideration  
Serial No. 10/771,603

Docket No. 5000-1-511.

**In the specification**

**Please amend the specification as follows:**

*Beginning on page 12, line 18:*

FIG. 7 is a diagram for explaining a system monitoring method and an optical switch control method in the central office of the ring network according to an embodiment of the present invention. Referring to FIG. 7, optical signals multiplexed with the same wavelength, received bidirectionally from the central office 100 via the optical transmission line 40, are demultiplexed by the WDM demultiplexers 151, 152. The 10:90 optical couplers 401, 402, 403 are connected to reception ports, from each of which a high-priority optical signal is output out of the two demultiplexed signals having the same wavelengths. A photo-diode is connected to each of the optical couplers 401, 402, 403 to detect power of an optical signal output from a 10/100 terminal of the corresponding optical coupler and simultaneously control a pair of optical switches located in a transmission terminal and a reception terminal according to presence/absence of the optical signal. Although a photo diode (PD) 411 is shown to be connected only to the optical coupler 401 in FIG. 7, separate photo diodes (not shown) are individually connected even to the other optical couplers 402, 403. The photo diodes are connected to their associated optical switch control circuits (not shown). If it is assumed that a particular remote node receives a first wavelength  $\lambda_1$  and transmits a

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second wavelength  $\lambda_2$ , the first and second wavelengths  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  make a pair, and in transmission and reception terminals of the central office 100, two optical switches 111, 161 associated with the first and second wavelengths  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are controlled by one optical switch control circuit 420. In an embodiment represented by FIG. 7, two optical switches 112, 162 associated with third and fourth wavelengths  $\lambda_3$  and  $\lambda_4$  and two optical switches 113, 163 associated with a fifth wavelength  $\lambda_5$  and a sixth wavelength  $\lambda_6$  are controlled by their optical switch control circuits (not shown).